

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2010
MEADOWEDGE RESTAURANT
WEST SAYVILLE GOLF COURSE**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Miles Borden	Vice Chairman, Town of Smithtown
Gil Cardillo	Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Gregory Dawson	Chairman, Town of Islip
Amy Engel	Member of the Board
Richard Hollborn	Trustee, Town of Babylon
Dawn Hopkins	Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
Bill Shilling	Member of the Board
William B. Sickles	Trustee, Town of Southampton

ABSENT

Scott Hilary	Trustee, Town of Southold
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Joseph Montuori	Commissioner
Tracey Bellone	Deputy Commissioner
Nicholas Gibbons	Principal Environmental Analyst
Terry Maccarrone	Coordinator of Community Based Programs
Tony Trotta	Superintendent
Barbara Weiss	Senior Account Clerk

GUESTS

Lauretta Fischer	Principal Environmental Analyst, Planning Dept.
Tom Jones	Suffolk Committee for Camping
Tom Young	County Attorney's Office

Chairman Dawson called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC PORTION

There was one member of the public present. He did not wish to speak at this time but asked to reserve his comments for later in the meeting.

Trustee McKay mentioned that Trustee White could not attend today's meeting as he had a prior commitment to attend a meeting regarding the Montauk Lighthouse with Admiral Neptune who is with the Boston Coast Guard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21ST, 2010

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Trustee Sickles and seconded by Trustee Hollborn. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Indian Island Restaurant RFP

Commissioner Montuori stated that a resolution is needed to approve the Indian Island Restaurant RFP. Deputy Commissioner Bellone explained that the current concessionaire defaulted on his contract, and an immediate RFP was completed by the Contracts Unit. A resolution is needed from the Trustees to authorize the Parks Department to issue the RFP, and a resolution is also needed appointing a Trustee to serve on the RFP committee.

Trustee Sickles stated that the words "Indian Island County Park" should be changed to reflect that the location of the restaurant is at Indian Island Golf Course.

A motion to approve the Indian Island restaurant RFP was made by Trustee Engel and seconded by Trustee Hopkins. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

A motion to appoint Trustee Cardillo to serve on the RFP Committee was made by Trustee Hopkins and seconded by Chairman Dawson. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

Commissioner Montuori reported on the following:

- Parks fees for 2011 will revert back to the fees that were established in 2009, and therefore will represent an increase over the 2010 fees.
- Timber Point Golf Course hole #6 and the Blue Course has been named by Golfing magazine as one of the top 18 hole golf courses on Long Island.
- The County Executive dedicated a trail at Lakeland County Park as a "Purple Heart Trail" for veterans; the park is also handicapped accessible. The Department has applied for a grant to extend a wooden decking path to the water.
- The RFP Committee for the Smith Point restaurant concession has recommended that the Beach Hut be awarded the contract.
- The number of total golf rounds has increased by 800 over last year.
- Working with Legislator Cilmi and a private citizen who has volunteered to build a dog park at Gardiner's Park with no cost to the County.
- The Southaven staff did a great job at the Boy Scout Jamboree; there were 4,000 Boy Scouts in attendance.

Commissioner Montuori wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Dawson mentioned that during the week of December 26 through January 2, the Town of Islip will be holding "Winter by the Bay" festivities at Lake Ronkonkoma, and the Town will be asking the Department to use the County beach as a staging location for the fireworks display.

ROUND TABLE

Trustee Sickles mentioned that the Town of Southampton has been inventorying cemeteries within the township. One is located at Hubbard County Park adjacent to Black Duck Lodge. The Town is doing restoration work which may require County access at Hubbard. The Department has not been approached by the Town. Trustee Sickles would volunteer to represent parks to help with the restoration work. Even though the cemetery is in the middle of County parkland, it is owned by the Township. Deputy Bellone will inform Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services, about the Town's project. Black Duck Lodge is currently vacant, but a tenant will be moving in around December 15.

Trustee Hopkins received a complaint about a tremendous amount of invasive species of vegetation in Lake Ronkonkoma around the Bavarian Inn reaching to St. Mary's; it has also been seen at Brookhaven Beach. The vegetation starts at the bottom of the lake and breaks through the water. There was a report from DEC in the summer that they were watching a small amount of hydrilla that was forming in the lake.

Trustee McKay was under impression that the Trustees had reviewed the 2009 fees and approved them prior to them being reinstituted by the Legislature. Since that was not the case and according to Article 5 in the Suffolk County Charter, the Trustees are charged with the responsibility of approving the fees and charges of parks and recreation facilities, and the Legislature reserves the right to override them.

A motion to approve the recent rollback of park fees to the 2009 level, which was approved by the Legislature at a meeting on November 16th, 2010, was made by Trustee McKay and seconded by Trustee Cardillo. The motion was approved by a vote of 8-1-0. Trustee Engel opposed.

Trustee Cardillo inquired about the opening of the fishing pier at Smith Point. Mr. Maccarrone responded that it is substantially completed and believes a dedication ceremony will take place in the spring. Deputy Commissioner Bellone added that it will be open to the public as soon as DPW clears it.

Trustee Cardillo asked about the status of the dedicated sign and/or bench honoring Trustee Fritz at the fishing pier. Deputy Commissioner Bellone responded that the department will erect a sign, and Trustee White was working on the language. The Parks Foundation was researching the cost of a bench with some of the current funding. A vote would be needed by the Parks Foundation to approve the bench. The Legislature has approved the naming rights.

Mr. Gibbons reported on the following:

- Updated the Board on the second part of the dredging project at Cupsogue; first part began in spring. There was 6,000 yards of material which was stockpiled north of Burma Road. In the second phase, 50,000 cubic yards of material is being used to nourish the ocean side of the beach. 5,600 cubic yards of material will be stockpiled separately, and the Town of Brookhaven will remove the sand from Cupsogue and use it at Webby's Beach, a town park in Center Moriches which has experienced significant erosion. The Army Corps of Engineers is assisting with some of the funding. The Town needs to get permits which should be resolved by the end of the year. They will be trucking the material with in-house equipment from Cupsogue which may have some impact to the pavement or the dune cross-over point and Burma Road. The department is working with DPW and County Attorney's office to make sure that any impact is repaired.
- Reported that New York State has issued a grant for one million dollars to the Parks Department to do a tidal wetland restoration project at Indian Island County Park. There has been a pervasive mosquito problem in the interior part of the park since it was used in the early 1970s as a dredge spoil deposition area. Project would seek to restore a tidal connection between that area and Terry's Creek. Commencement for the project is approximately two to three years off since a tremendous amount of engineering is needed. Culverts will be used to cross roads. Silt material will be removed from the

park. Several county and state agencies will be involved in the project. Permits will be needed from the DEC and Army Corps of Engineers. CEQ will be informed of the project.

- Informed the Board that the handicapped accessible duck blind has been completed using in-house staff at Southaven. Materials were donated by the South Shore Water Fowlers Association. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Monday, November 29, at 2 p.m. if the Board would like to attend. County Executive will present a proclamation to the water fowlers association. It will be open to any handicapped individual with particular interest in serving the wounded veteran population.
- Reported on the piping plover statistics for this year. The number of pairs was comparable to last year, but the productivity was significantly down. There was a total of 59 pairs and 36 fledges; the productivity is a little more than half a bird per pair. The recovery goal is 1.5 fledges per pair. Last year was average, and this year was well below average. Natural predation and weather has an effect on the productivity.

Mr. Maccarrone reported on the following:

- Attended the bid opening on November 18th for the installation of new water service to the campground area and fire hydrants at West Hills. The lines will connect off of Mt. Misery Road.
- GATR site project is almost completed. DPW is waiting for final plans from the contractors.
- Waiting for FEMA approvals for five projects one of which is Smith Point for \$11.6 million.
- First meeting for the Coindre Hall Boathouse project is scheduled for Monday, November 22.
- Fuchs Pond contract went through. There is no start date from DPW.

Mr. Jones from the Suffolk Committee for Camping addressed the Trustees and expressed his opposition to the fee increase recently approved by the Suffolk County Legislature.

Deputy Commissioner Bellone reported that work will begin on Saturday, November 20th, on the dog run at Cherry Avenue in the Town of Islip.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 16th, 2010 at Meadowedge in West Sayville.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Hollborn and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 9-0-0.